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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHSN/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE 1677
RUESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE 2316
RUEHTG/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE 4242
RUEHSJ/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE 2327
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE 1328
INFO RUEOEHA/ USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HTS PN PRIORITY 9056
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 375939

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: MASS, OPRC, XK, ES, NU
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN ADDABBO ON AID TO THE
CONGRESS.

1. THE SECRETARY HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER DATED
DECEMBER 11 FROM CONGRESSMAN ADDABBO:

BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE RECENTLY ENACTED H.J. RES. 648, MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1985, CONTAINS A PROHIBITION REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO THE "CONTRAS" FIGHTING IN NICARAGUA. RECENT REPORTS HAVE INDICATED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES ARE FURNISHING AID TO THE "CONTRA" FORCES IN ORDER TO KEEP THEM A VIABLE MILITARY FORCE EXERTING PRESSURE ON THE SANDINISTAS. OF THE COUNTRIES IDENTIFIED IN THESE REPORTS AS FURNISHING SUCH AID, SEVERAL ARE CENTRAL AMERICAN NEIGHBORS OF NICARAGUA AND ARE THEMSELVES RECIPIENTS OF U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FUNDING. FOR EXAMPLE, EL SALVADOR HAS BEEN THE RECIPIENT OF INCREASED U.S. AID SINCE THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT DUARTE, AND IS IDENTIFIED IN THE REPORTS AS BEING ONE OF THE COUNTRIES AIDING THE "CONTRAS". IF THESE REPORTS ARE ACCURATE, I AM CONCERNED THAT COUNTRIES RECEIVING U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AID MAY BE UTILIZING A PORTION OF SUCH AID TO ASSIST THE "CONTRAS" AND, IN SO DOING, EFFECT A RATHER DEVIOUS CONTRAVENTION OF THE LAW PROHIBITING SUCH AID.

I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS ISSUE AS WELL AS YOUR ASSURANCE THAT NO U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FUNDING IS BEING UTILIZED TO EFFECT WHAT AMOUNTS TO "REVOLVING DOOR" AID TO THE "CONTRAS".

WITH BEST WISHES,

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SINCERELY,
/S/
JOSEPH P. ADDABBO
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

END TEXT.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED RESPONSE
TO ADDABBO.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. ADDABBO:

I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO YOUR LETTER OF DECEMBER 11 TO THE SECRETARY IN WHICH YOU EXPRESSED YOUR CONCERN THAT U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES IS BEING USED TO AID THE ANTI-SANDINISTA FORCES AND THEREBY CIRCUMVENTING THE PROHIBITION CONTAINED IN THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION FOR FY 1985.

OUR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FUNDS TO CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES, AS ELSEWHERE, ARE MONITORED VERY CLOSELY TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE USED FOR THE PURPOSE INTENDED. IN EL SALVADOR, THE MANAGEMENT OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS PERFORMED BY THE U.S. MILITARY GROUP WHILE THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AID) MISSION MANAGES ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE. WE CANNOT DETERMINE OR DICTATE HOW A NATION EXPENDS ITS OWN RESOURCES, HOWEVER, DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS AND DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT THROUGH U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ARE CLOSELY SUPERVISED. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, NO U.S. FOREIGN

ASSISTANCE FUNDING OR EQUIPMENT PROVIDED THROUGH THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT IS BEING DIVERTED TO THE ANTI-SANDINISTA FORCES OR A THIRD COUNTRY.

SINCERELY,

W. TAPLEY BENNETT, JR.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

END TEXT.

3. REQUEST COMMENTS/CHANGES FROM ACTION ADDRESSEES AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SHULTZ

END OF MESSAGE

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